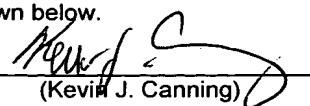




01/25/05

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 465006992 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 21, 2005

Signature: 

(Kevin J. Canning)

Docket No. ATA-333RCE
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Steve A. Herweck *et al.*

Application No. 10/045,544

Confirmation No. 2463

Filed: October 26, 2001

Art Unit: 3731

For: BODY FLUID CARTRIDGE EXCHANGE
PLATFORM DEVICE

Examiner: J. W. Woo

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2004 (Paper No. 20040917), the response period of which is extended to January 21, 2005 by the accompanying Request for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.